

**\*The following data reflects information gathered from the school districts in Missouri for the 2000 Homeless Children and Youth Census.**

## Homeless Children and Youth Data Collection

### Estimated number of homeless children and youth in Missouri regularly attending school

To define "regularly attending school", for the purpose of this survey, we determined it meant the homeless child would have attended 85% of the days the child was enrolled at the school.

	# of Homeless Children/Youth	# of Homeless Children/Youth Enrolled in Public School	# of Homeless Children/Youth Regularly Attending School
<b>Total</b>	17,527	14,267	13,831

### Homeless preschool children

# of Homeless Preschool Children	# of Homeless Children Preschool Children Enrolled in Preschool Programs
5,668	999

There was a large discrepancy between the numbers of preschoolers and the number enrolled because:

- Several parents elected not to enroll their child(ren) in preschool programs.
- Active Headstart Program in some districts, sponsored by Human Development Corporation, a community action agency
- Numerous parochial and private pre-school programs.
- Shelters keep infants and toddlers at day care facilities at their locations.
- Homeless children maybe younger than age three. Some districts' services don't begin until age three.

**Of the total number of homeless children and youth, including preschoolers, the estimated number who have the following as their primary nighttime residence.**

Primary Night Time Residence	Est. # of Homeless Children/Youth
Shelters	7,264
Doubled-up	6,741
Unsheltered (e.g., campgrounds, cars, parks, etc.)	5,094
Other (specify)	2,277
Unknown	209

### Barriers to school attendance/enrollment of Homeless Children and Youth

(a) The most frequently identified barriers to school enrollment or attendance ranked in order. Number one (1) indicates the most frequently identified barrier and number nine (9), the least frequently identified.

Attendance/Enrollment Barriers	Number ranking 1-9
Residency requirements	1
Availability of school records	4
Birth Certificates	8
Legal guardianship requirements	3
Transportation	5
Lack of available preschool programs	7
Immunization requirements	2
Physical examination records	9
Other (specify): special education records, need to work to support self-unable to attend school, not notified when student drops, chronic transitions.	6